

Letter from Mabel Hubbard Bell to Alexander Graham Bell, May 14, 1917, with transcript

Letter from Mrs. Alexander Graham Bell to Dr. Alexander Graham Bell. 1331 Connecticut Avenue. May 14, 1917. Darling Alec:

It just breaks my heart to think you've not been here these last few weeks to meet all these interesting foreigners, and incidentally get me a peep too!

I've had two or three charming little notes sent me by Mr. Balfour and have met two perfect dears in the way of Major Tulasne and Lieut. De la Grange, the French Aviators, and missed chances of seeing others for which I could slap myself, and all because you weren't here.

Then there is all the Departmental activity that I've come in for through David and Bert. I am afraid it will seem a sort of backwater in Baddeck except that it's never so where you are. Well, I give it all up since I can't have both you and that. The provoking part is that we have had never a decently warm day since you left. We are still wearing furs and having furnace fires. True the big house across the way has disappeared behind the thick foliage of the Avenue trees and the first spring burst of glory has come and gone, but I don't know why because it certainly hasn't been perceptibly warmer than when you were here.

I hoped to get off tomorrow or Wednesday but the whole of two families lunch here every day and that makes the work of preparation very difficult. I have not yet paid my bills, bought the canning things and my clothes. Gretchen and I spent the entire morning having 2 our pictures taken for the passports and now they say they're unnecessary. Why didn't you tell me? Sarah is coming with me and I would like to go to the Point. I think you must be ready for a return to civilization.

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Mrs. Richard Crane called today, she said Charles R. Crane's ship was attacked on either side by two submarines but got off.

Much love, Mabel.